(a) whether any nodal department has been created in the States for formulation and implementation of Tribal Sub-Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the funds earmarked for TSP will be reallocated by the nodal department for implementing scheme directly for ST development?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) In all the 22 TSP States nodal departments have been identified for matters relating to the welfare of Scheduled Tribes which *inter-alia* includes preparation and implementation of the Tribal Sub-Plan.

(c) As per guidelines issued by the Planning Commission for the formulation, implementation and monitoring of the Tribal Sub-Plan, States are required to make provisions to place the funds earmarked for TSP at the disposal of the nodal department, which in turn will reallocate the funds to the sectoral departments or to the districts for implementing schemes directly relevant to ST development. However, this is to uniformly being followed by all the States.

Tribal land for Special Economic Zones

†4246. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is aware of the fact that the land belonging to a number of tribal people is being acquired for setting up of Special Economic Zones;

(b) the manner in which his Ministry propose to extend a helping hand to the tribal people in a situation like this; and

(c) whether his Ministry does not find it appropriate to have a dialogue with the Ministry of Commerce and Industries in this regard?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) No reference citing any specific instance of acquisition of tribal land for setting up of SEZs has been received.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Rural Development is considering a new Resettlement and Rehabilitation Policy which will be an improvement on the National Policy on Resettlement and Rehabilitation-2003, as well as amendments to the Land Acquisition Act, to give greater protection to person, including tribals, whose land is to be acquired.

Schemes for special projects in 54 tribal pockets

4247. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are formulating any scheme to run special projects in 54 identified tribal pockets in the country having low female literacy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Tribal Affairs has taken action to revise an existing scheme for improving female tribal literacy and make it more focused so as to improve literacy among tribal girls in 54 identified low literacy districts as given in Statement (*See* below), where there is significant tribal population (i.e. 25% or above), and the tribal female literacy is below the national average (approximately 35%). The revised scheme is also proposed to be applicable to tribal Blocks/Mandals fulfilling the aforesaid criteria, and also the areas inhabited by Primitive Tribal Groups. The revised scheme is 100% Centrally funded and aims to bridge the gap between tribal female literacy and general female literacy levels, and tribal female and tribal male literacy levels, through, *inter-alia*, the provision of hostel facilities for tribal girls in Panchayats and Blocks, reducing drop-outs at the primary and middle school levels, providing stipend for tuitions, putting in place a system of incentives to encourage high school education, preparation of primers in major tribal languages, sensitization and training of NGOs/autonomous societies and teachers running the project, and mobilization of the community to become part of the programme.